THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) (i) Central Training Institute, Chennai, was setup by Dirctorate General of Employment & Training for imparting training to Instructors of Industrial Training Institutes/ Centres. It also offers courses under the Craftsmen Training Scheme with intake capacity of 240 trainees.

(ii) Regional Directorate of Apprenticeship Training, Chennai implements Apprenticeship Training Scheme in Central establishment with about 5090 located seats in Tamil Nadu.

(b) Training facilities are upgraded from time to time to meet the skill requirements of the Industry, including last year.

(c) Training facilities created for computer related trades are also utilized by rural youth to enable them to take up jobs in BPO centres and call centres.

Meeting with Central Trade Unions

823. SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:
SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting, scheduled to be held by Labour Minister with the Central Trade Unions on 25th October, 2006 regarding violation of labour laws in different States, was postponed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the likely date of next meeting;

(c) whether CITU had sent a memorandum citing violations of Labour laws in various States, as well as in Central Government Departments, like CPWD; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government on the points raised in the memorandum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) A meeting was fixed on 24.10.2006 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of State for Labour and Employment with the Central Trade Union leaders to discuss

the violation of various labour laws in the country. The meeting could not be held on 24.10.2006 as a Government holiday had been declared on account of Id. The deferred meeting scheduled for 25.10.2006 and the meeting fixed again on 16.11.2006 could not be held due to administrative exigencies.

It was decided that another meeting may be called to discuss in detail the various issues related to implementation of labour laws in the country. The date of proposed meeting is yet to be fixed.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, CITU has sent a memorandum concerning some glaring examples of violations of labour laws in some States and by Central Government Units. In this context a report was called for from the state Governments of NCT of Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh and also from Chief Labour Commissioner (Central), New Delhi. Necessary reports are still awaited.

Strenuous Working conditions in IT Sector

824. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the employees in IT sector are forced to work beyond the stipulated working hours under strenuous conditions;

(b) whether it is also a fact that workers in the IT sector are denied of the protection of existing labour laws applicable to other sector;

(c) if so, the Government's reaction thereto; and

(d) what measures Government propose to take to protect the workers from over exploitation and to provide labour rights?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (d) The employees in IT sector are covered under the existing labour laws. The State Government are the "appropriate Government" under the various labour laws and legally vested with the powers to deal with the enforcement of labour laws in information technology sector. Information Technology and